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# Senators Fear Helms Has Lost CIA Control

## Reshuffling, With More Positions Going to Military Men, Worries Key Lawmakers

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Key senators are concerned that CIA Director Richard Helms might have been "kicked upstairs" in the reshuffle of America's intelligence community, with more influence in spy activities going to military men.

Helms has assured inquiring senators that he had no reason to believe he had been shuffled aside in the nation's intelligence hierarchy.

But there is concern on Capitol Hill that Helms has lost out in the shakeup of the intelligence network ordered by President Nixon last month.

Sens. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) and J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) are concerned that the shakeup has increased Pentagon predominance in the intelligence field, and Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss.) is conducting an investigation to find out what happened.

What has disturbed Helms' friends in the Senate is that the day-to-day control of the CIA apparently has been relinquished to a military man, Lt. Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., in order to free Helms for his new duties as overall director of the CIA and all other intelligence units. Cushman, a marine, is deputy director of the CIA.

Also, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the deputy secretary of defense have been given a new voice in the intelligence command through membership on a committee, which, under the direction of presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger, will oversee intelligence.

Helms, in a closed-door meeting with the Senate Armed Services Committee this week, said he did not think he was being shoved out of the way.

Stennis, the committee chairman, said Helms "assured me that his dominance over it (the CIA), his effectiveness, his powers over it will not be diminished one bit."

But Stennis indicated he still was not satisfied and "we are going into it and we are going to analyze it and study it and have an investigation — if one wants to use that word—if necessary. We do not take these things lightly. The stakes are too high."

No one in the Senate really knows what has happened at the CIA. Not even senators like Stennis, who are let in on the nation's intelligence secrets, were told in advance.